APPARITIONS HELD CAUSE FOR YOUNG'S SUICIDE

Science Slayer Evades Noose by Ending Life in Cell With Garrote of Wire

Dr. Thomas W. Young was driven to suicide by a nightly apparition of his murdered wife stalking through his cell. This was the opinion yesterday afternoon of several persons to whom the little dentist had confided of other ghostly visions that had haunted him for many years. Dr. Young ended his life about three hours before he was to face another torturous day in Superior Judge Hahn's court, where, bit by bit, a mass of damaging evidence was being accumulated against him.

He chose to die as he probably would have died, had he waited long enough for a jury of seven women and five men to give him a penalty of death—by strangulation. He slew himself with an improvised garrot fashioned from a radio wire.

MOTIVES ADVANCED

Many were the motives advanced during the day for Dr. Young's act. Some said the recent reunion here with his sister had inspired his suicide. Others said he took his own life to save his aged parents the ignominy of a son dying on the gallows.

Some believed he chose death rather than suffer the testimony of young Patrick Grogan, his stepson, whom he loved, and who was to reveal startling evidence against Dr. Young from the witness stand yesterday. Others thought that evidence presented against the dentist during the past three days—testimony of a most damaging nature—had so unnerved Dr. Young that he saw nothing ahead but a death on the gallows.

But the most plausible reason for Dr. Young's suicide, in the opinion of a few, was that the nightly vision of his slain wife haunting him in his prison cell had driven him to seek forgetfulness in death.

HAS OTHER VISIONS

Dr. Young recently told four alienists, during an examination of his sanity, that frequently within the past four years he had been visited by his brother's ghost. Like himself, his brother had slain a woman and then had committed suicide. The ghostly vision drove him from one city to another, never permitting Dr. Young to elude it, and eventually drove the dentist to Los Angeles, where he established his business, married the wealthy widow of California's "olive king" and then murdered her for her fortune.

"I would see my brother's vision just as I dropped off to sleep," he told the alienists. "It always appeared in a large hall. And I was always in the back of the hall and he was always up in the right corner. I could tell it was my brother by his form."

Always, when the vision appeared in the night, it would try to speak to Dr. Young, but he could never distinguish the words, Dr. Young told the alienists. The thing worried him, but did not frighten him, and he was never able to sleep.

LOSES NERVE

Dr. Young appeared morose during the final days of his trial. He seemed completely unnerved last Wednesday, his last visit in the courtroom. His sister was present, and she caressed him and kissed him. His sullenness changed to intense anger during the testimony of two witnesses. One had been his best friend, Dr. Howard Boles, but on the witness stand Dr. Boles drew tighter the snare of guilt around Dr. Young. This, too, added to the accused dentist's despondency.

When Dr. Young returned to his cell in Tank 9 at the close of Wednesday's court session, his buoyant spirits had sagged. He told his cell-mates, during their nightly game of pinochle, that the day had been filled with "tough breaks" for him.

"I'm going to take a long ride tomorrow, boys," he told them, and they laughed, for they believed he referred to the coming trip to the scene of his crime in Beverly Glen.

READS IN CELL

The pinochle game finished, the dentist lay on his cot, reading newspapers and a magazine story, "The Misfit." The light burned in the cell until 1:20 a.m. Previously, he had told his cell-mates not to be alarmed if they heard strange noises in his cell.

"I've been having a bad attack of indigestion," he told them. "I woke up last night and found myself choking and making bubbling noises. If you hear anything like that don't be alarmed."

Dr. Young did not arise at the usual time yesterday morning. At 6 a.m. Assistant Jailer Palmer called to him to get up.

"All right," the dentist replied.

O. F. Mahler, Maywood publisher and one of the occupants of Tank 9, awoke at 7 o'clock. A trustee brought breakfast for the three inmates of the tan kand Mahler distributed them, one to himself, one to H. Foster and one to Dr. Young.

Dr. Young failed to stir from his cot when Mahler entered. He was not sleeping in his usual position. His feet were on the pillow and his head was at the foot of the cot. The blanket was pulled tightly around his head and only one hand was visible.

FAILS TO WAKEN

Mahler gently shook the dentist. He did not awake. He shook him again. The body moved strangely. Mahler jerked the blanket from him.

Dr. Young was dead.

The eyes distended from a swollen, blue face. A garrotte of wire, tightened with a small stick, was wound around his neck. He had meted out his own judgment.

Court was opened as usual by Superior Judge Hahn. Prosecutors and defense attorneys sat solemnly at the counsel table. Witnesses waited anxiously to aid the State in its effort to seek death for the little dentist. But the little dentist was not in court.

Bailiff Bryant was called to the witness stand and sworn.

"Have you seen the defendant this morning?" Dist.-Atty. Keyes asked him.

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

"Was he alive, or was he dead?"

"The defendant was dead."

"Can you produce him as a defendant in this court?"

"I cannot."

Dist.-Atty. Keyes arose and asked for a dismissal of the case.

"Granted." Superior Judge Hahn ruled.

JURY EXCUSED

The jury was excused and the trial of Dr. Young was ended. In the hallway, young Patrick Grogan was smiling. He had demanded the death penalty for his stepfather, the slayer of his mother.

"I guess it's square now," the boy remarked. "Well, it's all over and now I can go to the beach."

Frank W. Hunt, father of the slain woman, would not believe Dr. Young was dead.

"I want to see him before I'll believe it," he said.

The old man was taken to the Walter Blue funeral parlors and there he viewed the body of the man who had slain his daughter.

"I have wanted him hung all along," he said. "I am glad this man is no more. It took a long time to get rid of him."

"I am glad it's all over," Dorothy Leopold Mahan, chief witness for the prosecution, stated, and then she went into seclusion to recover from a nervous breakdown which she suffered in the courtroom last Wednesday.

"Dr. Young's act is a full confession of his guilt," Dist.-Atty. Keyes declared. "He knew as well as we did that his case was hopeless, but he did not become desperate until our evidence against him was practically complete. He meant to cheat the hangman's rope as long as possible, though he was fully aware that he would end on the gallows."

ACT HELD INSANITY

Dr. Young's attorneys looked upon Dr. Young's suicide in another light. They declare the suicide to be positive proof of his insanity.

"I have always believed Dr. Young innocent of murder," Attorney Louis Collings stated. "Repeatedly, he insisted that his wife committed suicide and that he buried her at her request, made shortly before her death. He had planned to testify and tell his version of his wife's death. He told me his confession was only a happy thought."

Isabelle Young, the dentist's sister who came to Los Angeles from Pittsburgh to aid her brother in his fight for life, was too overcome with grief yesterday to make any statement. She will take the body back to Pittsburgh tomorrow.

An investigation was being conducted last night to determine where Dr. Young obtained the wire used in strangling himself. It had been taken from a small radio set that had been installed in the cell.

An effort was also being made to determine if Dr. Young had taken any poison before ending his life. This was being done at the Walter Blue funeral parlors, 735 West Washington street. The autopsy was performed by Dr. Cecil Reynolds and Dr. Edward S. Franklin.

Dr. Young was arrested for murder on June 13, last, four months after the disappearance of his wife, Mrs. Grace Grogan Young. He continually declared that she had deserted him and that he had proof she was alive.

Upon the request of Times reporters, Dist.-Atty. Keyes and Dep. Dist.-Atty Davis were urged to launch an investigation. Dr. Young and all the principals involved in the mystery were questioned and twenty-four hours later Dr. Young confessed to slaying his wife on the night of February 21, last, with somnoform, a dental anaesthetic. He then led the investigators to his wife's Beverly Glen cabin, where the body was recovered from beneath the concrete floor of a cistern.

Though Dr. Young made three confessions of his crime, he pleaded not guilty to a murder charge. His trial began two weeks ago, and prosecution testimony was almost completed when he ended his life. Damaging testimony had been uttered against him, principally by Dorothy Leopold Mahan, formerly his office assistant, and it was this, according to the belief of many, that shattered his morale and inspired his suicidal act.

Death Avenges Slain Wife





[P. & A. Photo]

Dr. Thomas W. Young (above) and Harry G. Foster, his cellmate, (below.)

COUNCIL BURIES TUNNEL SCHEME

(Continued from First Page)

to take it up," Councilman Hall thundered in attacking Hodges.

EXPRESSES FEARS

"This is a stock-selling proposition," Mr. Hall continued. "The company has not sufficient money. Hodges has been through bankruptcy and is not the proper person to direct its affairs. My own prediction is that the scheme will be a failure. We will have a deep, long hole in the tunnel and nothing else to show for our troubles. The whole thing is a shady proposition and the Council cannot afford to indorse it."

He then urged that the Council, in its capacity as a committee, go on record and file the ordinance and follow it up by issuing new subpoenas for Hodges, W. M. Warthley, sales manager of the company; J. Howard Murphy, another official, and all others wanted by the Council.

"Where is Hodges," he thundered, and then said:

"We want to know, we have a right to know, and we will be unwise not to know from him or any one else what they know about any graft or irregularities in the Council, present or past."

The Council's dilemma, Mr. Hall said, was how to kill the ordinance and yet keep the matter open so as to be able to legally to call Hodges and others before it as witnesses.

NEW SUBPOENAS

Today when the committee's report is submitted to the Council, this matter will be straightened out and new subpoenas will be issued, it was explained by Assistant City Attorney Whitehead.

Yesterday's action was brought about by the motion of Councilman Criswell, seconded by Councilman Moore, who is chairman of the Public Utilities Committee, that the ordinance be filed. When all the verbal fireworks were over the Council voted unanimously to file the ordinance.

Councilman Criswell, in making his motion, said that aspersions have been cast on the old Council and that he wanted to supply Mr. Hodges with an opportunity to tell all he knows.

"I hope he'll get out on the housetops and shout all he knows," Mr. Criswell said.

The testimony of Mrs. Berry developed that a salesman of the Tunnels Transportation Company called on her and told her in glowing terms of the project to build a tunnel and an elevator to the top of the hill. The man's name, she said, was Palmer.

TELLS OF PICTURES

He showed her pictures of the elevator and said the company had a franchise to build the tunnel and elevator and that it would establish a garage on the top of the hill, she declared.

Councilman Barnes produced Mrs. Berry's check for the first payment on one share of stock, which was to be $25. With Councilman Hall acting as the legal representative of the Council, Mrs. Berry identified her notations on the check which read, "Tunnel and Elevator."

The importance of this testimony was that there is not a word anywhere in the company's franchise about an elevator, although its literature mentioned the elevator as an associated enterprise. Councilmen leading the fight against the project pointed out.

Witness O'Dell testified that he was employed by J. Howard Murphy to sell stock of the company.

ALLAN CALLS IT LIE

Councilman Allan, who has been at Big Bear on vacation, returned to the city yesterday and termed Downs's assertion concerning the $65,000 "grease" applied to the old Council, "a deliberate lie, committed to cover his own misdeeds."

"I have never written a bond in favor of the city in my life," said Mr. Allan, head of the insurance firm of Allan, McMasters Company. "I did not write one dollar of insurance for the Tunnels Transportation Company, nor have I the faintest idea who did.

"I had nothing whatever to do with this tunnel project except in the line of duty as a member of the Council. I doubted if it were a feasible plan when it first was broached, but gave my assent because the city appeared to receive an advantage from it.

The demurrer of Councilman Downs and Fitzpatrick and J. P. Murphy to the county grand jury indictment charging them with bribery was taken under advisement by Judge Hahn of Superior Court yesterday afternoon. Judge Hahn stated he will make a ruling on the demurrer at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

The demurrer was based on the grounds that the facts set forth in the indictment do not constitute a public offense, and that the indictment does not conform to sections of the Penal Code of the State governing the drawing of true bills. Other technical points of law also were raised by Attorneys Thomas P. White and Otto J. Emme for the defendants, and Judge Hahn ordered the demurrer submitted to

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That a fine quality blue-white diamond worth $100 is offered for sale for $30.

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That a girl, 20 to 25 years old, is wanted as companion to invalid lady living alone.

That a 54-inch mahogany dining table—Queen Anne style—with six cane back, leather-seated chairs can be bought for only $60.

give him time to read the cases at law quoted by the attorneys and Asst. Dist.-Atty. Fricke in support of their oral arguments.

White, arguing for the defendants, contended the votes of Downs and Fitzpatrick were not necessary for the passage of the proposed ordinance granting the Tunnels Transportation Company the right to build a conveyor through the Second-street tunnel. If their votes were not necessary, he said, they could not legally be charged with bribery, as the remaining thirteen members of the Council could pass the ordinance regardless if Downs and Fitzpatrick voted in the negative or affirmative.

White argued in behalf of Murphy that the demurrer should be sustained in so far as it concerned the latter, as the true bill did not specifically charge Murphy with having solicited and received that or any bribe.

Replying to White's argument, Fricke contended the matter of votes necessary to pass the proposed ordinance had nothing to do with the charges made in the indictment. Fricke asserted the indictment charged Downs and Fitzpatrick with accepting a bribe of $2000 to obtain passage of the ordinance and that this was sufficient to meet the requirements of the law in the case. Fricke also asserted the indictment charged Murphy with assisting and abetting Downs and Fitzpatrick in accomplishing the offense charged in the indictment against the pair, and that his charge was sufficient to hold Murphy under the indictment as it was based on that section of the Penal Code which holds that any one willfully aiding, assisting or abetting another or principal in the perpetration of an offense is equally guilty with the principal.

All of the accused men were in court during the arguments.

TRAIN TIME CUT PROBLEMS SEEN

(Continued from First Page)

to be regarded as a protest against cutting down the time on the part of the roads, but merely an effort to inform the public as to the problems involved.

"The attitude of the railroad officials was one of sympathetic co-operation, and I am sure they are desirous of meeting the situation in the best possible way," commented President Pridham of the Chamber of Commerce after the meeting was over. "We were assured that another meeting will probably be asked for with the Chamber of Commerce in the near future, at which time I hope some definite understanding will be reached.

"I may add that the request for a shortening of schedules recently addressed by the Chamber of Commerce to the presidents of the three roads made no suggestion that the running time between Chicago and Los Angeles should be cut down twenty-four hours. We feel, however, that a six-hour reduction would not be unreasonable and this would be almost as much advantage to Los Angeles as the twenty-four hour cut, because it would enable passengers to reach this city in the morning, thus giving them a full day for transacting business here."

Impersonation Case Suspect Freed on Bond

Claude S. Smith, salesmanager of a large Figueroa street automobile agency, relented suddenly from his refusal to return to Lewisville, Denton county, Texas, on a charge of extorting $500 from Hood Cunningham while representing himself to be a Federal prohibition agent several months ago.

The reason was Cunningham.

A week ago yesterday Smith occupied the stand before United States Commissioner Turney and declared he was an innocent victim of circumstances, that his companion, a dry agent, "may" have been guilty of accepting a bribe when they visited the Cunningham farm, but that he never had represented himself as a government agent.

The Department of Justice asked for a week's delay in the hearing and subpoenaed Cunningham. Identification followed and yesterday Smith waived examination and furnished $2500 surety bond for his appearance at Lewisville next month.

BELGIAN ENVOY TO JAPAN DUE SATURDAY

Joseph Strauss, president of the High Commission of Commerce and Industries of Belgium, en route to Japan to make special commercial arrangements between the two countries at the invitation of the Japanese government, will arrive in Los Angeles Saturday morning next and stop at the Biltmore for a few days. He will arrive from New York via the Panama Canal on the steamship Finland, reaching San Pedro at 8 a.m. He will sail from San Francisco some days later for Japan in company with the Japanese Consul of Los Angeles.

JACOBY BROTHERS TO CELEBRATE TONIGHT

Jacoby Brothers will celebrate fifty years of business in Los Angeles with a Golden Jubilee Dance to employees tonight in La Monica Ballroom, Santa Monica. All lounges besides the ballroom have been reserved for the 400 employee guests. There will be dancing contests for which prizes will be awarded. The concern announced yesterday that some of the veteran employees have seen Los Angeles evolve from a pueblo into a great, cosmopolitan city.

BANDIT SUSPECT RETURNED HERE

Edward Schultz Brought to City Under Arrest

Murder Warrants Issued Against Prisoners

Three Others, Detained for Questioning, Freed

Edward Schultz, one of three asserted gunmen against whom the District Attorney's office yesterday issued warrants charging murder in connection with the Hellman branch bank robbery and killing last Saturday, was brought here last night from San Francisco and was booked by Detective Lieutenant McCarron on a charge of suspicion of robbery.



McCarron brought Schultz, who was taken into custody in the Bay City Monday, here unhandcuffed in his automobile last night. He said Schultz willingly accompanied him. He said he did not discuss the charges against Schultz with the prisoner. It was learned from others, however, that Schultz offered an alibi. Jake Barrett, reported bodyguard of Farmer Page, is understood to have declared Schultz was with him at the time the Hellman bank affair took place.

KASZAK GIVES CLEW

Suspicion first was directed against Schultz when Tony Kaszak, one of the three against whom the murder warrants were issued, was taken to the Receiving Hospital and on seeing the body of Rudolph Franta lying on the table exclaimed: "They must have got Schultz!" Franta was shot and killed and Kaszak was shot through the shoulder.

The other murder warrant was issued against Ed Holmes, reputed member of the gang, who escaped. Police believe a fifth member acted as advance agent and spotted the Santa Fe avenue branch bank. The crime was the one in which Traffic Officer Wylie E. Smith lost his life in line of duty, pierced by bullets from one of the gangsters' revolvers.

Two pistols were found in the pocket of Schultz's automobile when apprehended, McCarron said.

THREE RELEASED

Charles Edwards, Calvin Warren and Joe Dunn, who were detained Monday and questioned in connection with the case, were released yesterday.

Capt. Bean of the homicide squad and Detective Lieutenants Dryden, Hickey and Condoffer are working on other angles of the case.

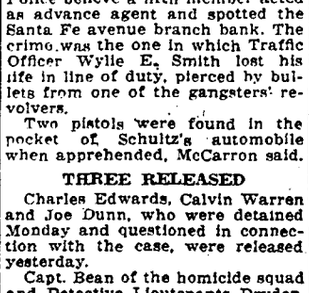
The City Council yesterday formally adopted the ordinance offering rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the two missing bank bandits. The ordinance calls for the payment of $2500 for information resulting in the arrest and conviction of each of them.

Pardon Plea in Oil Fraud Case Meets Disfavor

Disapproval of executive clemency for William Vurpillat, head of the Co-operative Oil Syndicate of Signal Hill, who was convicted April 8, last, of using the mails to defraud and sentenced with James Ferdon to pay a fine of $1000 and serve two years in Leavenworth, was voiced yesterday by U. S. Atty. McNabb when Vurpillat's petition to President Coolidge was brought to his attention.

McNabb concurred with H. L. Arterberry, special assistant to the Attorney-General, prosecuting attorney against Vurpillat, Ferdon and Dr. S. M. Wells, a third defendant, in deciding to return an adverse opinion to the President.

Vurpillat, Ferdon and Wells were indicted March 1924, in company with Charles H. and W. A. Kirkpatrick, who later were acquitted.



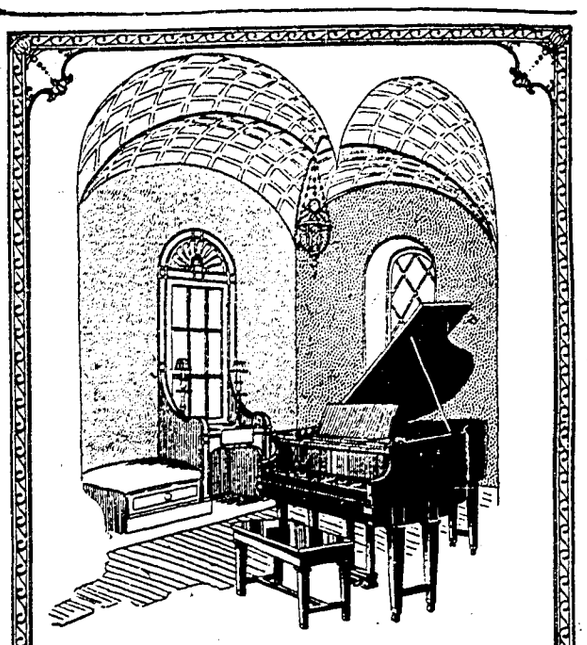
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